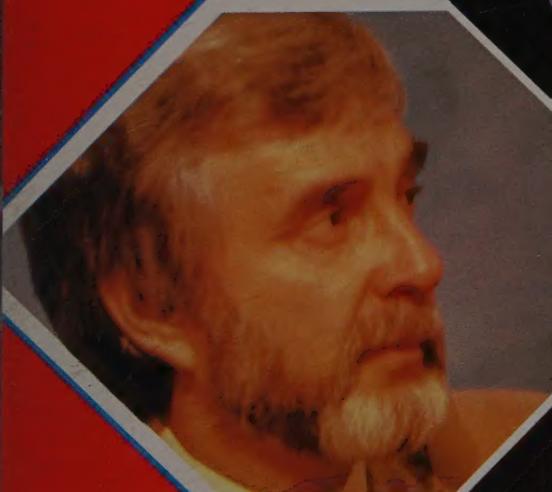


Foursquare World

JUNE, 1982

ADVANCE



**Commissioned
Beyond Ourselves**

Exceeding Our Highest Dreams

By Rev. Paul Risser, Convention Chairman
Pastor, Florence Avenue Foursquare Church
Santa Fe Springs, CA



To say that we were pleased with the delegates' response to the 1982 Convention missions emphasis would have to be considered an understatement.

The opportunities God is opening to the Church of the Foursquare Gospel obviously show that, as we become "Commissioned Beyond Ourselves," God will enable us to exceed our highest dreams in reaching the world's lost. Allow me to mention only a few examples of the exciting developments that stood out to me concerning the convention...

- In Africa, six different groups of people from countries previously untouched by the Foursquare Gospel want to link arms with us to reach that emerging continent.
- The missionary work in Central and South America is literally exploding, particularly in areas where the North American missionary can no longer go. One pastor from Brazil who attended the convention has a church in the thousands and has started over 80 other works.
- Strategies challenged the convention body to reach 100 hidden people groups by 1990.
- We were greatly moved by the multitude of national leaders from around the world who honored us by attending this conclave.
- After the delegates heard the possibilities for expanding Foursquare missions worldwide, each church promised by faith to increase their giving to Foursquare Missions International by an average of \$3,600 annually. Many fledgling churches previously not committed to missions are excitedly anticipating their involvement during the coming year.

So much good news and so many possibilities...be sure to read all the convention recaps in this issue of the Advance.

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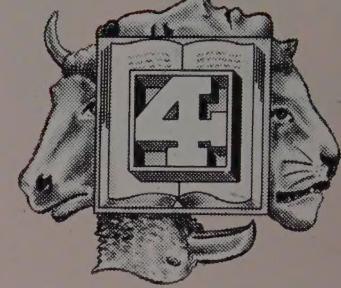
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STATEMENT OF FAITH
International Church of the
Foursquare Gospel





May you never be comfortable again. I challenge you to feel the heartbeat, the enthusiasm and the resolution of the 1982 International Foursquare Convention in these next pages. I challenge you to hear the voices of delegates who traveled thousands of miles to plead before God in union with us to save the souls of their countrymen. And I challenge you to become uncomfortable.

Two billion souls have not heard of Christ's saving grace, yet we are part of a worldwide movement out to conquer this very statistic. No longer is "missions" a vague, unreachable term—a bottomless well that we pour our hearts and money into. Because many have taken the risk to become uncomfortable, we are **seeing** all types of nationals and Hidden People groups being **reached for Christ** like never before.

If you find my words hard to believe, hear it straight from Peter Wagner on pages 6 and 7, a Fuller Seminary theologian who has been there. Read the words of Bill Beaton on page 5, retired Vice President of the Crown-Zellerbach Corporation in Canada, an admittedly tough-minded businessman who wept openly as he shared with his wife what he found in Costa Rica. Match **your** vision with that of our brothers in Brazil, who started 250 churches last year and are claiming to start another 280 churches this year (page 4).

"Missions" has become an exciting new word, exploding with the vitality of intriguing new cultures, differing languages, yet pervaded with the truth of the One True God for all peoples (as shared by Don Richardson on page 13). The call to be "Commissioned Beyond Ourselves" has only begun. Find God's message to **you** in these next pages, and may you not become comfortable until you realize the meaning of two billion souls who have not heard of Christ's saving grace.

—Janice Pedersen
Editor

Commissioned Beyond Ourselves: The Strategy

Our Vision For THE WORLD

"To reach 100 Hidden Peoples by 1990, Missions International has four goals for 'Advancing Through the '80s'!"

"First, we will endeavor to increase our work—worldwide—by 1990, from 37 countries to 55 and beyond. Our second goal is to multiply the number of believers from our present 740,326

vision. To achieve this, we aim to have 100% of our churches giving to overseas missions. Currently, 50% of our giving comes from only 22 churches.

"Together in Christ we will attempt great things...we will achieve great things!"

Our Vision For NORTH AMERICA

"I believe today that we are to be open to a diversity of ministries. Isaiah 54:1-3 teaches, 'The sons of the desolate will be more numerous than the sons of the married woman' (NASV). The Lord of the harvest is



Dr. Leland Edwards
Director, Missions International

to over 1,500,000. Third, with the help of a short-term missions program, we would like to see our present 100 North American missionary personnel on the field increased to 185.

"Finally, \$10,000,000 must be raised annually by 1990 to facilitate this bold



Dr. Roy Hicks, Sr.
General Supervisor



going to give to our denomination much growth from ministries other than our own.

"He is going to give to us entire cities that are now spiritually desolate. God has opened to us here in the U.S. a whole field of peoples from other lands. I challenge you to open your facilities when not in use to the ethnic groups in your area. Disciple workers and plant churches in nearby communities that God may be glorified."

Left: Shirley West (right) was installed as the new UFW International President at the 28th Annual Shepherdess Luncheon, while Vinita Nicholls (left) became Vice President. Joy Jones (center) officiated, and Katie Loggins (see cover, top photo) was thanked for serving her allotted three terms. Below: 33 ministers were honored for 50 years of faithful service, while 20 were recognized for 25 years of active ministry. Rev. Frank Ziegler is pictured here.



CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS: Special teams were sent around the world to evaluate Foursquare's role in reaching the lost. Here is what they found:

Around the World With the Foursquare Gospel **The Strategy**

Our Vision For SOUTH AMERICA

Harold Helms, Team Leader: "I don't believe we have any option about missions. The Spirit has a word for the Foursquare organization today. We are responsible to reach our generation. Unless we voluntarily give our-



Dr. Harold Helms, Pastor of Angelus Temple, Los Angeles, California

SPECIAL JULY/AUGUST ISSUE: The First Foursquare International Global Leadership Conference held April 26-30. Dr. Roy H. Hicks, General Supervisor, is calling for all people to set aside one day a week in prayer and fasting. Hear what the Spirit has said to each Foursquare mission field in next issue.

selves to God, great pressure will come upon us. Only that which is submitted to the Lord will not be lost."

Bob Anderson, Team Member: "In Brazil, 250 churches were started last year, and the goal this year is to start another 280 churches. The Spirit is moving—many churches have services three to four times a day, seven days a week. What is the reason for growth? 'We work at our responsibility,' the leaders told us."

Jim Tolle, Team Member: "In Bogota, Colombia, we have the miraculous story of John and Jean Firth. Their house has become a church, holding two full services on Sunday with over 300 people at each service. I feel this is foreshadowing a type of church that will rule that nation."

"In Argentina, 200 churches are thriving now, and the General Supervisor there said that this number could double if there were only laborers. I'm going to the mission field. I am hoping you will pray and give."

Our Vision For ASIA

John Holland, Team Leader: "The opportunity is there, in Asia, as well as across the globe. Are we equipped to



do the job?

"I believe God is giving supernatural life to our organization. And as we are confronted with new gifts, we will have to adjust to that change. We are



*Dr. John Holland,
Southwest District
Supervisor*

growing—structure in the family must change as mass increases. But I am excited. The supernatural is the kind of thing that turns nations around for God."

Ron Williams, Team Member: "God has put it in my heart to raise \$1,000,000 for missions. The Lord said, 'I want you to be responsible to influence 100 people who will respond to God.' Twenty of our churches are carrying 50% of our missions giving. We need to see the vision for missions in a more real way."

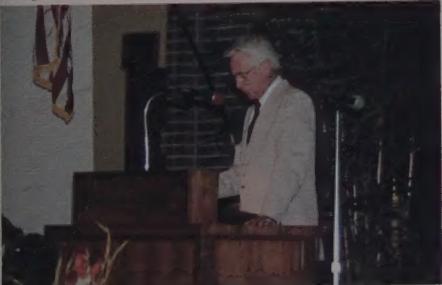


Left: During Sunday's ordination service, 98 men and women received the laying on of hands as they were set apart for ministry. Below: Every night of the convention, Spanish-speaking delegates gathered next door in Angelus Auditorium for special services.



Our Vision For EUROPE and AFRICA

Allan Hamilton, Team Leader: "When Mitchell Belobaba, team member, and I met in Nigeria, I was so impressed by the positive attitude and



*Rev. Allan Hamilton,
Pastor of the Portland,
Oregon, Foursquare
Church*

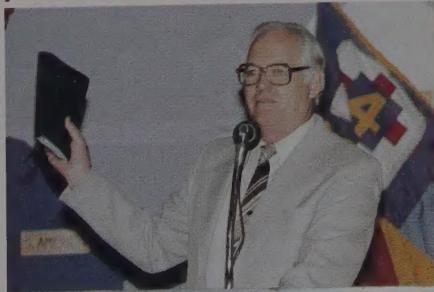
commitment which I found there. In Egypt, the pastors are under great persecution, but people are prepared to lay down their lives for the gospel. More than ever before, the Church of South Africa is facing perilous times. But we learned of dynamic works—over 1,000 churches have been planted under the leadership of one man. Ghana is also under strain, but I talked to one man who is willing to die in Ghana for the gospel if necessary."

Jack Hayford, Team Member: "I believe the Lord wants to fill us so much with His purpose that we can't

get comfortable anymore. The Spirit is saying to the people of the Foursquare fellowship, just as the angel said in Rev. 10:11, 'You must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings' (KJV). This is our call."

Our Vision For CENTRAL AMERICA and the CARIBBEAN

Donald McGregor, Team Leader: "The Church is growing even in the midst of a very poor situation in Middle America. The leadership potential is there. Evangelism, discipleship, and church growth are major reasons for an expanding Christianity. We can be proud of what is happening under the



*Dr. Donald McGregor,
Missions International
Special Representative*

Foursquare Church and we can expect even more in the following decade."

Ken Wright, Team Member: "I went to Guatemala in fear and trembling, but what I saw there was fantastic. We have a church there that has grown up. A national made the comment to recent missionary Jerry King: 'We have learned that the missionary comes not as a father, but as a brother.' I saw tears streaming down Jerry's face. And in Costa Rica and Panama, the goal for 1982 is to double their number of churches!"

Bill Beaton, Team Member: "I am a tough-minded businessman not given to much compassion. But I wept openly as I shared with my wife what I found in Costa Rica. Leaders traveled day and night to share with us the vision for their country. Their people walked to a recent convention, they came by bus, they slept on the floors of the meeting places. This was a commitment to Jesus that my North American mind could not understand."

Barry McGaffin, Team Member: "Middle America is the story of the Church prevailing as it should. The churches planted 25, 30, 50 years ago are growing to maturity and have come to the kingdom for such a time of turmoil as this."

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS: Jesus said, "I will build My Church." Hear Dr. C. Peter Wagner, Professor of Church Growth, Fuller Theological Seminary School of World Mission, prove how that statement has held up over the past 2,000 years.

Reaping and Keeping the Harvest

With characteristically good timing, Jesus waited months before He told His disciples about the central purpose of His coming to earth. They needed to discover who He really was before they could fully understand why He came.

The event is recorded in Matthew 16. Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was. Peter replied, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (vs. 16, KJV). Only then

could Jesus reveal His mission: "I will build My Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (vs. 18, KJV).

That was Jesus' purpose nearly 2,000 years ago and it is His purpose today. His plan of operation was remarkably simple. It can be seen in four parts:

1) He found 120 persons who would commit themselves to Him as

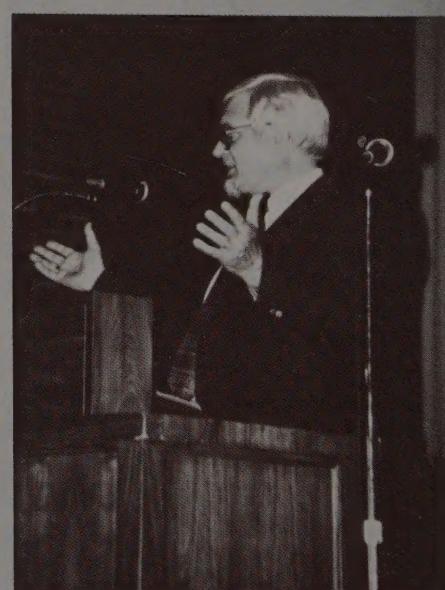
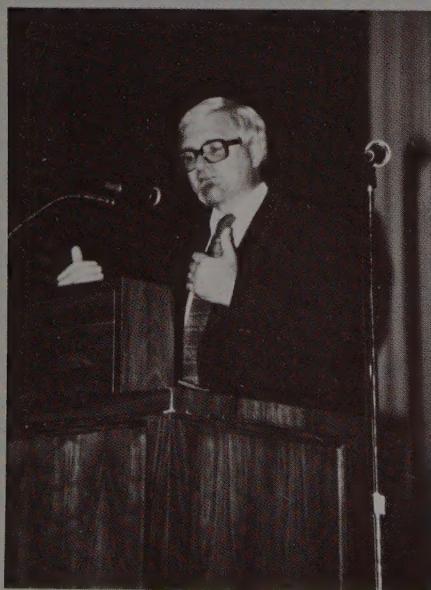
Lord.

2) He trained them all, but gave special training to about 10 per cent—the 12 apostles.

3) He left them clear instructions: "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Mt. 28:19, NASV).

4) He promised them supernatural power to accomplish the task: "All power is given unto Me...and lo I am with you alway" (Mt. 28:18,20, KJV).

What is the sequence? Commit-



ment, training, commission, power. It has never changed. Jesus expects us to be as faithful as the 12 apostles in implementing His plan. And He has given us all the required resources.

But as soon as Jesus declared that He would build His Church, He warned about the "gates of hell." Why did He do this?

Wherever God's people are active in carrying out God's plan, the devil will attempt to interfere. The worldwide spread of the gospel is now far greater than it has ever been in history. Thus, it is no surprise that the devil is hyperactive. He uses many weapons: nationalism, secularism, heresies, pride, carnality, twisted priorities, and many more. But within the last couple of years, I have come to see that perhaps Satan's greatest weapon of all is leashing the faith of Christians.

We put a leash on dogs to restrain them. We thereby restrict their power. Satan is likewise trying to restrict Jesus' power within Christians. He is limited, however. He cannot leash saving faith. He cannot leash the intellectual faith that God is sovereign. But he can and does leash the faith which Paul Yonggi Cho calls "the fourth dimension": belief in the supernatural intervention of God's power in everyday affairs.

Most of us believe God can work in great power. But few of us really believe He will. The disciples were a lot like us. On the very next page of the Bible after Jesus said that the gates of hell would not prevail, the disciples tried to cast out a demon and failed. Why? Jesus said, "Because of your unbelief" (Mt. 17:20, KJV). All they needed, He said, was faith as a grain of mustard seed. But the devil had leashed their faith and drained their power.

The disciples learned more about it later, however. Pentecost came, they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and the Book of Acts tells the rest of the story. God worked through them

mighty in signs and wonders. The gates of hell did not prevail. Disciples were made from one end of the Roman Empire to the other.

How were the disciples made? Jesus said to Peter, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven" (Mt. 16:19, NASV). What are these keys? Obviously it is a metaphor for the gospel. When the gospel is preached, heard and accepted, another soul enters into the kingdom of God. The gates have been unlocked.

Peter used the keys on the three major people groups of the day: Jews (on the day of Pentecost), Samaritans (with Philip in Acts 8), and Gentiles (in the house of Cornelius). But that didn't end it. Patrick used the keys when he went to Ireland. Boniface used them among the savage tribes of Germany. Carey used them in India, Judson in Burma, Livingston in Africa. Don Richardson used them for the Sawi in Irian Jaya. They are still being used, but at least 16,750 people groups are still waiting for someone to come along with the keys.

A few years ago on a trip to India, I paid a visit to Serampore and stood by William Carey's grave. Carey, who went to India just before 1800, is known as "the father of modern missions." What has happened since he went? More people have been won to Christ and more Christian churches have been planted in the 180 years after Carey than in the entire 1800 years before. Every day, 63,000 new Christians are added and every week, 1,600 new churches are started.

I could multiply examples. I could tell of Latin America where the evangelical church is growing ten times faster than the population. While the bullets fly in El Salvador, the Evangelistic Center there is packed with 15,000 worshipers each Sunday. Guatemala is nearly 20% evangelical. A church in Santiago, Chile, has over 80,000 members. A sanctuary in Sao Paulo, Brazil, accommodates 25,000.

I could tell of Africa which (south of the Sahara) had three percent Christians in 1900 and is projected for 48 percent by the end of this century. I met a Nigerian church planter who had started 258 churches in five years—a church a week. In southern Africa an evangelist, Reinhard Bonnke, is taking delivery on an evangelistic tent accommodating 35,000. A Nigerian missionary society, led by one of our Fuller alumni, Panya Baba, currently has 400 missionaries working in the field.

I could tell of Asia where entire Muslim villages in Indonesia have become Christian. Northeast India which was populated by 1.5 million headhunters in 1900 is now over 75% Christian. Korea boasts the largest Presbyterian, Methodist and Pentecostal churches in the world. A record-breaking crowd of 2.7 million gathered on Yoido Island to hear the gospel one night and 70,000 accepted Christ, more than 20 times the number on Pentecost. Plans have been announced for the construction of a gigantic sanctuary that will accommodate 500,000 persons.

But the most dramatic case of Jesus building His Church that I have heard of is mainland China. When the missionaries were driven out by the Communists in 1949, an estimated one million Chinese were Protestant Christians. Then the bamboo curtain came down for 30 years. Bibles were burned, atheism was officially promoted, pastors were beaten and jailed, churches were all closed, worship was outlawed, witnessing was severely punished. As never before it seemed that the gates of hell were prevailing.

But, no. Jesus was building His Church. An intensive research survey taken in November, 1981, now indicates that there are at least 25 million Christians in China, an amazing decadal growth rate (DGR) of 200% for the 30-year period. How did this happen?

Church growth is always complex; there are many reasons. However, a

Continued on page 15.

"Jesus has written Colombia on our hearts with indelible ink. We cannot leave because God's love and compassion bind us to these people."

*John and Jean Firth,
Missionaries to Colombia,
South America.*

Our hearts yearn to see this nation serving God!" says John and Jean Firth. "As we start work in one area, inevitably we hear a call to another. We constantly seek people to send through these

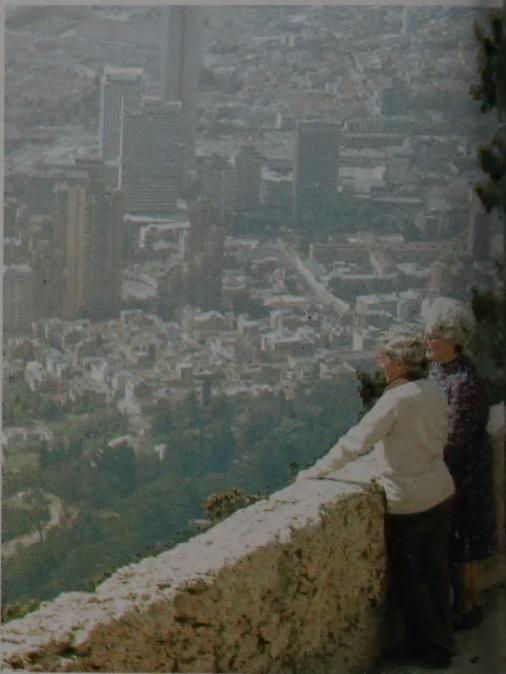


doors of ministry. When we find them, we train them diligently. But above all, we ask God to enflame their hearts with the vision of Jesus—resurrected."

Ponder the Price. John and Jean Firth came to Colombia in 1938. Forty years passed as they served the poor and working classes (while the last four years have seen increasing results in the upper class). They saw thousands come to Christ, but it was not without personal cost. Evangelicals were a despised, persecuted minority. Nevertheless, Christians marched forward "on their knees" and were granted religious freedom in 1968.

Saving, Totally. Presently, the Firths and their eldest daughter, Rosemary (LIFE Bible College, 1972), help minister healing at the Bogota Church through spiritual clinics. Some require emotional healing. Others come to shed the chains of occult bondage. Still others seek and find an end to bouts with disease. Jean, herself, was healed of

Many changes have occurred since the Firths arrived in Colombia. Shanties have given way to high-rise buildings and darkness has given way to the light of the gospel.



Crowds of previously unreached professional people flock to hear that God really cares and has made provision for their needs. Each week, John Firth teaches what those provisions are and how believers may avail themselves of the endless supply.



The Word of God is now an open book for Colombians. It brings them the knowledge that they are not to be enslaved by sin. It grants them the power to live today and tomorrow as free people as God's truth spans the generations.

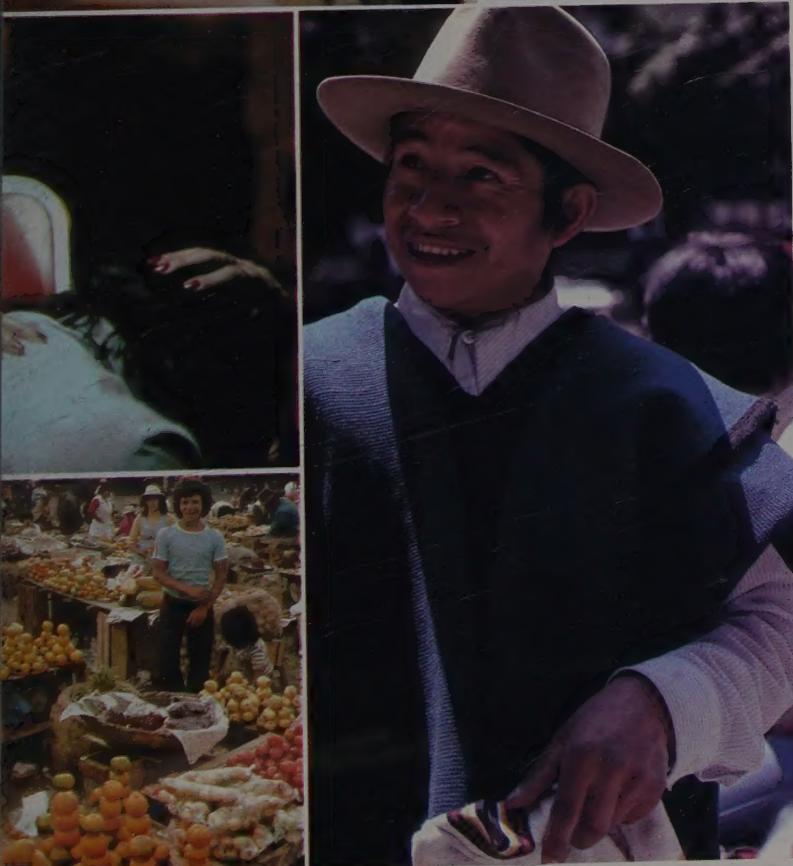


er! A PROFILE OF FOURSQUARE WORLD MINISTRIES LOMBIA

MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL
4



Worship—the keystone of spiritual awakening—fills the Foursquare churches of Colombia. The effects of honoring God are just emerging: national stability, vital churches, prospering families, and secure individuals.



Many Colombians know about God's love and provision for life. Yet other souls lie just outside contact with Jesus because of ignorance, sin and bondage. Foursquare Missions International has targeted them for evangelism.

Parkinson's Disease!

The Great Awakening. The Bible was once a closed book to Colombians—they were forbidden to own a copy. But the liberty of the present has allowed widespread access to the Word. Literature is gratefully received by the Colombian people and is an important tool of evangelism. In fact, Missions International is now ready to send 500,000 pieces of literature to Colombia through the Foursquare Literature Fund.*

Through the Word and the ministry of the Firths, the upper class now reaches out to embrace Jesus. Although the fruits of this spiritual awakening are not fully visible, the Firths trust God to profoundly influence these people.

Conquering Canaan. The future holds bountiful promises in her right hand and boundless challenges in her left. The national atmosphere is hazy and certain groups espouse new national philosophies. But now, God challenges Christians there to fast and pray. He promises to bless Colombia with prosperity and justice if, as John says, "We choose to move—by prayer—the hand that moves the world."

For a Prayer Focus

- Ask the Lord to continue His work among people formerly closed to the gospel.
- Pray that He will raise up committed Christian workers.
- Pray for gifts of support to enable 500,000 pieces of Christian literature to be sent.
- Pray for unity among all Christians of Colombia.

Believers change history through prayer. God can grace the land with His presence and favor. So, let us "amen" the supplications of Colombian intercessors...

Together!

*You can be a part of this exciting project by assisting with the cost of \$10,000. Send your gift to the Foursquare Literature Fund.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE... A REPORT OF FOURSQUARE WORLD MINISTRIES

HONDURAS

GOING HOME. "The 22nd Convention of the Honduran Foursquare Churches couldn't have been better," writes Kim Curtis. "The name of the town in which we met was perfect—La Esperanza, 'The Hope.' It was in this peaceful mountain setting, amidst its dirt streets, corn fields, and simple, open hearted people that a joyous sense of excitement was felt by all."

It seems, now looking back, that Christ was preparing some of them for something unexpected—a trial that would bring them close to him. But at the time, any fears were washed away with singing, powerful preaching and fervent prayer.

"It resounded first from the pastors meeting upstairs, and then from the general meeting below like a blessed echo," shared Kim. "From the platform one could not only sense, but see in each face, the receptive minds and spirits of those who gathered to worship and learn."

Non-believing visitors were moved by pointed messages like, "Time Is Short" and "Are You Prepared?" Much soul searching and deepened dedication was made in response as hearts cried out to God. More and more visitors came, filling the church and overflowing into the street. "Thanks to a good P.A. system," said Kim, "the service was clearly audible for several blocks!"

"But all too soon it was time to leave," she continued, "and what followed seemed like a strange dream. It was the phone call the next morning that advised us of the accident. A truck load of our people had left in the early morning hours. The driver took a wrong turn which turned the vehicle over. One life was lost—the 10-year-old son of a new Foursquare pastor.

"The child was his daddy's pride and often accompanied him on the guitar during services. He was a little boy who, as young as he was, had made a great impact through his Christian testimony and obvious love for the Lord.

"Several days later at the grave site, his father said, 'There are some things that we cannot understand...difficult

things that we must accept and trust the Lord in. We cannot let this defeat us or keep us from doing what God has given us to do. The Lord wanted our son to be with Him. Our son was ready to go. We will continue on. We will be strong.'

"A tragedy you ask?" Kim concluded. "A sad ending to a blessed convention? No, I have a strong conviction that this

story beautifully illustrates THE HOPE that endures earthly suffering. Death for this child was a joyous homecoming. After eagerly receiving the week's teachings, he experienced the reality of the Hope that the rest of us must wait for: La Esperanza...the Living Hope...Christ the King."

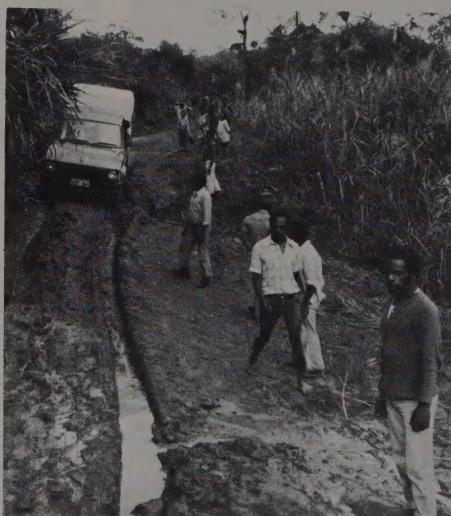
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

CLOTHED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. A baptismal service was held near the village of Degi, Kundiawa. During the service, a prominent village leader rose and gave his testimony. He was dressed according to his station: feathers, leaves and a bark belt, so much of which symbolized his godless, ancestral past.

He explained that since he was now a



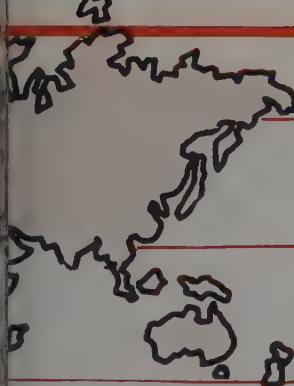
The forces of service and prayer have supplanted the laws of warfare and retribution. These Papua New Guinea brethren intercede for their village and await God's direction for ministry.



The land as well as the culture present challenges to Foursquare missionaries in Papua New Guinea. Yet, the love of God and impassioned commitment help them press on to share the Good News.



This young couple has accepted Jesus as the Lord of their home. Gone are the talismen and fear of spirits. They now devote their days to serving God, each other and their village.



Around the World With the Foursquare Gospel

MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

4

christian, he had decided to leave all his old ways. This decision even included his traditional clothing and the past life it regretfully depicted. To the amazement of the pastor, without any outside prompting, he removed his traditional dress and donned village-type walking pants in rejection of his past life. Thereafter, he was baptized.

In celebration of his new life in Christ, his chieftain held a feast. Custom dictates that all favors and obligations must be returned in some way. So, he told his guests that the feast was his way of settling all obligations. He now owes no man anything but love, and from that time forward, all his actions have issued from a commitment of love.

BROKEN ARROW. Rev. Lawrence Hall woke from a sound sleep and proceeded to pray. Two clans had fought near Kerowagi and he felt a heavy burden for them. Intercession lasted for hours.

At dawn, he went to the "no mans and" fighting zone and found 2,000 fully clad warriors preparing for battle. Laurie addressed them via bullhorn. The warriors were so taken back that they laid down their shields and weapons. He preached the gospel, contrasting hate

and revenge with love and forgiveness.

After Laurie's confrontation of both clans, their determination to fight was reversed. To date no fighting has broken out. Clan members have instead asked Foursquare workers to visit their villages and teach them further in God's Word.

LORD OF LORDS. Pastor Tiuke of Kerowagi witnessed to a gang leader as he passed out tracts to a group of young men. During a later service, that leader accepted Jesus as his Lord. As a result, five other men decided to follow Jesus.

Pastor Monsito Ysug saw a gang leader, "Big-head Man," in his Sunday morning congregation. He did not accept Jesus. Nevertheless, Rev. Ysug shook his hand at the end of church and HUGGED the man as well. Five days later, five members of Big-head Man's gang attended a fellowship gathering and accepted Jesus as Saviour.

donated the land on which it stands. The Hong Kong District Missionary Fund provided \$15,000 in Hong Kong currency to furnish the premises. While on dedication day, other churches and community officials sent enough flowers to literally line the outside of the building.

Over 100 people attended the service and praised God for His provision. But the highlight of the festivities was the orphanage choir, "Angels of Melody." These children, ages 4-6, sang a medley of songs with actions—stealing every heart.

Since the event, many have begun attending the new church. And the new bond has prompted the orphanage children to take greater part in the church.



MACAO

THE CHILDREN CRIED HOSANNA. The new Macao Foursquare Church, pastored by Rev. Ada Poon, was recently dedicated. A believer from Macao



One village leader in Degi, Kundiawa, changed from traditional dress to village-type walking pants in rejection of his godless past.



The "Angels of Melody" orphanage choir stole every heart at the Macao church dedication. Foursquare Missions International maintains an ongoing program for homeless children. Jesus' words and love prepare them for adult life.

National pastors have risen to prominence lately. They travel the land searching out souls and relate the gospel to them in cultural terms.

McPhersons Celebrate 50th Anniversary!



Fifty years have passed since Aimee Semple McPherson formally announced the union of Rolf K. McPherson and Lorna De Smith in marriage on July 21, 1931. Little did the groom know that he would succeed his mother in the leadership of the Church of the Foursquare Gospel, which now has ministries in 39 countries of the world.

Over 1,200 ministers and convention delegates gathered Tuesday evening, April 20, to honor Dr. and Mrs. McPherson in a special anniversary celebration. Just an hour before in the convention service, a plaque had been presented by Dr. Harold Jefferies, and their anniversary gift from the International Church, a well-kept secret, was announced—a new burgundy Cadillac Cimmaron! These are just tokens of appreciation for the love and dedication the McPhersons have given to us. We praise the Lord for the countless thousands of people their lives have touched.

Celebrating a Banner Year

The 1982 International Foursquare Convention, a "banner year" with 1702 delegates, included the largest contingent of missionaries and national workers ever with 127 foreign delegates.

Dr. Rolf K. McPherson, President, reported at the Convention Business Session that 333,394 people, or 1/3 of a million, confessed Jesus as their personal Saviour during 1981! 62,938 were baptized in water, and 111,631 were baptized in the Holy Spirit, this latter figure being a 50% increase over last year. We praise God that we rose above the goal of 1,000 churches and closed the year with 1,021 churches in North America.

Dick Schmidt brought the Treasurer's report, one of the highlights being that the Foursquare Church Extension Tithe rose last year to an unparalleled total of \$3,362,170—a 534% increase during the last 10 years.

The announcement was made of the newly-formed "Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada," the Directors and Bylaws of which qualify under Canadian law. The Board of Directors of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel has worked with the Canadian Foursquare churches in taking this forward step toward the evangelization of Canada for Christ.

Under this corporation, all Foursquare

Gospel churches of Canada, both Eastern and Western, are now joined together as one district under the leadership of the new Canadian President, Rev. Victor Gardner. Our Canadian brethren have pledged to reach Canada for Christ with the Foursquare message. They will continue to be part of Missions International by supporting Foursquare Gospel missionaries.

During the Executive Forum, 450 delegates discussed meaningful ways to more adequately and creatively convey the message of missions to the churches. New slide presentations will soon be available, and the new program promoting every church to have a missions representative is expanding rapidly.

The following people were ratified for continuing service on the Board of Directors: N.M. Van Cleave, John Bowers, Dick Schmidt, and Lorna De McPherson. Marie Trimble, graduate of LIFE Bible College in 1971, was elected to the Missionary Cabinet.

Special recognition was made honoring Jerry Cook for serving on the Missionary Cabinet for five years; George Corsello for serving on the Board of Directors for eight years; Jack Hayford for serving as LIFE Bible College President for five years; Phil Hyde for serving on the Missionary Cabinet for four years; and Ed and Ivy Stanton for serving as National Directors of Youth

Ministries for three years.

Dr. McPherson led in prayer for those who have assumed new positions in the International Church headquarters during the past year, including Dr. Harold Helms, Pastor of Angelus Temple, who was recently appointed as Vice President. Dr. Helms is assuming the title which will require minimal time alongside of his pastoral duties.

Seven candidates received the honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree for outstanding ministerial service through the years: William Brafford, Sr., Jean Firth, John Holland, Mason Hughes, Paul Jones, Paul Risser and Fred Wymore.

Missionary candidates announced were Rev. and Mrs. Bill Wolworth to Spain, James and Alice Tolle to South or Central America, Brooks and Marlys Bryan to Greece for one month, Michael and Jill Picone to France, John and Helen Gnanaolivu to India, Greg and Inger Bretz to Norway, and Mason and Virgene Hughes along with daughter Denise Hughes to Singapore.

Finally, friends were reunited and vision was shared at the LIFE Bible College Alumni Breakfast, April 24, at the Sheraton Universal Hotel in North Hollywood, while the Mount Vernon Bible College Breakfast was held the same day at Luminarias Restaurant in Monterey Park.

Around the World With the Foursquare Gospel

ONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS:
ear God's directives brought
y leading men both in our
enomination and in the nation.

PREPARED HEARTS

**John Richardson, Director of
Fiberal People Studies, U.S.
Center for World Mission**

"God has prepared the hearts of people around the world for the message of the gospel. Paul and Barnabas found this cross cultural preparation—see Acts 14:17 (NIV): Yet He has not left Himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons...."

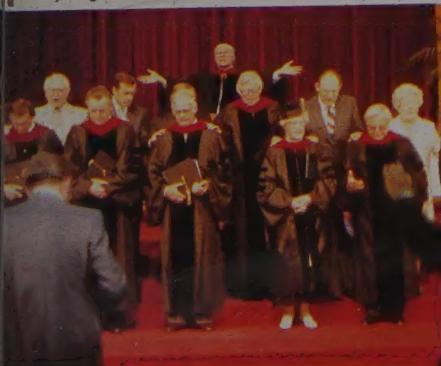
"One missionary went to a region and found the people worshiping one



god whose name meant 'Genuine-God.' They had never heard the gospel before, but when the missionary shared the gospel with them, they said, 'We know the Creator and we are glad you know Him too!'

"God has made a beautiful external witness of creation, and he has also set eternity in the hearts of men for an internal witness (see Heb. 8:10). But lest we say that we can stay home now because they already have eternity in their hearts, let us remember that they cannot fathom what God has done unless we tell them."

Seven candidates received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.



GO AND PREACH

Rev. Paul Hackett, Pastor, Carlin Avenue Foursquare Church, Lynwood, California

"We must not substitute an all-out quest to reach the 'hidden people' for our incumbent duty toward the 'visible people' who desperately need Jesus as Saviour in our communities.

"I pray that this convention will awaken us to the fact that 'beyond ourselves' can mean across town as well as across the ocean. How can we



convince a world that we are concerned about Africa when we have 25,000,000 black Americans to minister to? There is also a rich opportunity to reach Hispanics in this very area.

"Don't say, 'I can't relate to them.' The Holy Spirit will give you that relationship to other cultures, just as God gave it to Jonah when he went to Ninevah. We need to stretch ourselves to be commissioned beyond ourselves, amen?"

THE COCK IS CROWING

Dr. Donn Moomaw, Pastor, Bel Air Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles, California (President Reagan's pastor)

"First may I say that I am grateful for the influence of Aimee Semple McPherson on my grandparents, and



subsequently on my father. I owe gratitude to the Foursquare denomination as having a part in my ministry.

"Remembering Peter as the cock crowed three times marking his denial of Christ, I tell you today that the cock is crowing at midnight for many of us. The cock is crowing in our midnight of

despair and Christian sinning. Maybe you have followed the American Jesus but denied the Christian Christ. Someone once said, 'This is the era of the "shrugged shoulder." ' We are living in a moral cesspool to which we are all contributing.

"Once, President Reagan asked, 'When is the Church going to be the Church in today's society?' He didn't say it again and it has haunted me since. When will we take the Church seriously?

"How kind of God to call us. The Spirit of God is looking into your heart and mind like He did with Peter. He is loving us back into wholeness. Now is the time to trust Jesus as our Saviour."

THE PREACHER A TEACHER

Dr. N.M. Van Cleave, Foursquare Missionary/Preacher/Leader

"Those who take the Great Commission as their divine directive will accept teaching as a significant aspect of their ministry. First, we are all teachers because we are in partnership with the triune God. Real teaching is motivating people to action—it is not just a communication of concepts.

"Second, the teacher's charge is to feed the Church of God. We can have no greater influence for God than by teaching what He has poured into our hearts. Third, the teacher's gift is enablement through Christ. I don't have to do the work in my own strength. Fourth, because 99-44/100 of the work is done by supernatural



divine enablement, the remaining 66/100 is composed of the teacher's skill. Our part is very crucial.

"Finally, the teacher's reward comes in the form of well prepared pupils. I have taught men and women, starting in the 1930s and working now through the 1980s. I was quite shocked to hear that some of our retired supervisors were in my classes! But there is nothing more worthwhile than to influence the lives of others."

HERITAGE: Sidney Correll, a relatively close friend of Aimee Semple McPherson for 17½ years, focuses on the personhood of Sister McPherson. This is the second of a special two-part series.

Pool Halls, Street Meetings & Depression Day Bread Lines



In Angelus Temple, Sister McPherson ministered and distributed Bibles to thousands of servicemen during 1941-1944.

What was Aimee Semple McPherson really like? It was 1924, and Sister McPherson was leading hundreds upon hundreds to their salvation. But, what kind of person was this woman "dressed all in white who preached" as described by my uncle?

SHE LED BY THE EXAMPLE OF HER OWN LIFE

Aimee Semple McPherson never let any adverse circumstances keep her from preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ as Saviour, Baptizer, Healer and Coming King. Once when she was going to preach in a little hall in Canada, no one came to hear her. Placing a chair in the street, she stood on it and gazed up into the heavens. Soon, a crowd had formed. All of a sudden she shouted, "Follow me!" They followed her into the hall and she now had her congregation.

So likewise, when my wife, Helen, and I were in Paso Robles, California, and no one came to our hall, we took our banjo and guitar, stood in front of the local pool hall, and sang and preached. Sister's teaching and life example gave you the courage to do the extraordinary for Christ.

CRITICISM AND UNKIND ACCUSATIONS WERE HANDLED WITH LOVE

When faced with unkind accusations, Sister never, never retaliated. When hurt, I saw her lead the congregation in the old Negro spiritual with the words, "You can talk about me all you please...I'll talk about you down on my knees." She would warn us to never criticize anyone unless we could do a bigger and better job than they could.

Once, a woman told Sister the Lord had said to her that Sister should take her wig off. So our "Sister" said very sweetly, "Well, my dear, since the Lord has spoken to you personally, I think you should have the privilege of taking it off." As the woman pulled the hairpins out, Sister McPherson's beautiful hair fell almost to her waist.

IF SHE SAW A NEED, SHE DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT

There was a time when I only had one suit. Sister McPherson gave me \$50 and said, "Sidney, go buy yourself a suit. When you stand up

on the platform, you must look your very best for Jesus."

During the depression days, the whole city of Los Angeles knew where they could find food. I have seen hundreds of people lined up at the Temple Commissary.

The City of Los Angeles loved her dearly. Sister McPherson was made an honorary fire chief and police chief. I still remember the hundreds of firemen in Angelus Temple when she preached, "Firemen, Save My Child."

Many professional people and Hollywood stars found Christ through her ministry. She never put on airs; she just always had that beautiful smile.

SHE WAS EQUAL TO THE TASK

Once, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, she was invited to speak before the Bar Association. Many of the men, including myself, were embarrassed as the chairman of the meeting began to describe her in a most derogatory and unkind way. He said he was an agnostic, that there was no prayer in his home, and he supposed she was there to try to convert them all.

Helen and I watched her with concern, but her eyes never wavered. When she finally took the podium, she turned to him and very sweetly said, "I am sure you are a very fine attorney, and the fact that you have been chosen to present me today will testify to this. However, I am so sorry to learn that you never pray with your children. You never kneel with your wife and ask God's blessing on your union. You must be a very lonely man if you do not believe in Eternal Life."

Then she turned to the rest of the attorneys and said, "I'm quite sure that almost every man here has faith." And with an unparalleled beauty of voice, she gave her witness of her love and faith in Jesus Christ, and said she would serve Him forever. That man literally wilted, and when she was done, all the men stood and gave her a resounding cheer!

The desire still burns in my heart to do everything I can so that the gospel may be preached to all men. Often in praying I say, "Straight on, Lord Jesus, until the end." This fire was kindled in my heart by the person who led me to Christ, Aimee Semple McPherson.

territory in Genesis 17:18-21.)

"Has prophecy begun to fail?" some are wondering in bewilderment. The answer, of course, is an emphatic "NO!" God will perform His every promise or influence human rulers to do so. It may well be that the boundaries God charted for Israel will come in the millennium, but I prefer the interpretation that Antichrist will include Israel's expansion to the divinely designated borders in the covenant he makes with the Jews at the beginning of the tribulation (cf. Dan. 9:27).

Sometimes we get in too much of a prophetic hurry and need the cautioning Hab. 2:3 offers: "But these things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day" (LB).

And if Antichrist indeed should prove to be the agent by which God expands Israel to her prophesied borders, it will not be the first time that God used an ungodly ruler to accomplish His purposes or caused the wrath of men to praise Him.

Israel has withdrawn completely from the Sinai after occupying the peninsula since the June, 1967, Six Day War, if plans at the deadline for this column were consummated as expected. Egypt thus reclaims sovereignty over an area, part of which, at least, God specifically gave to Abraham's descendants through his seed of promise, Isaac. God's land grant to the Israelites is documented in Genesis 2:7, 13:15, and 15:18. The last passage charts secure and recognized boundaries designated by God: "Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates" (KJV).

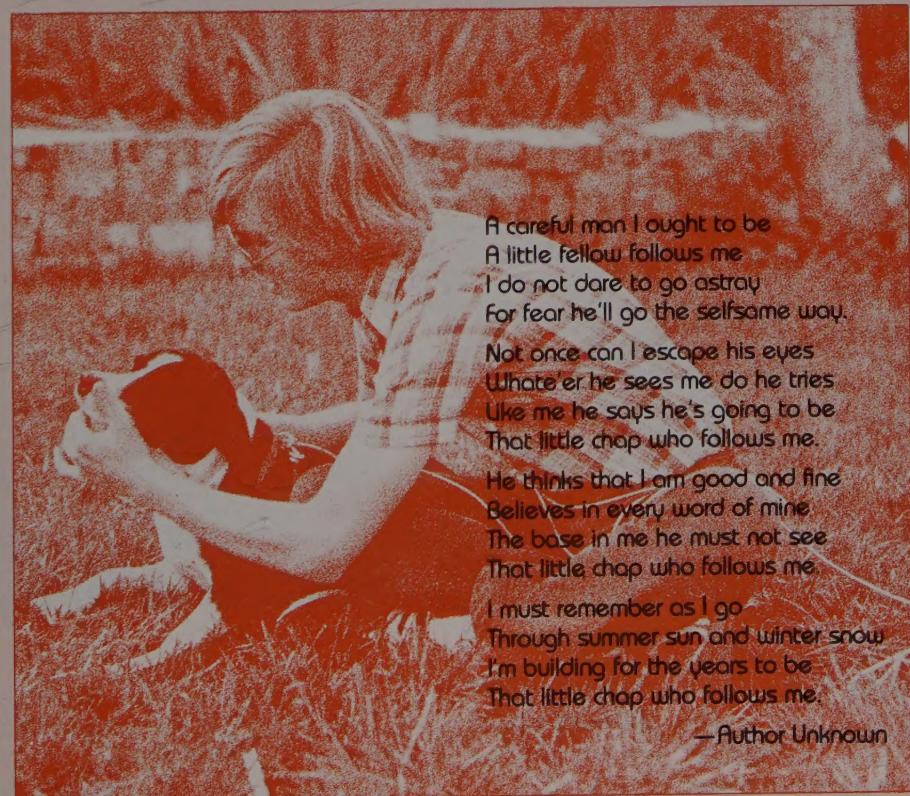
I drove to El Arish in the Sinai and Dachemish in Turkey to have a look at the extremities God charted. The Wady El Arish is almost certainly the "river of Egypt" of Genesis 15:18, although

Continued from page 7.

most important one is the spontaneous, unrelated outbreak of supernatural signs and wonders in every province.

David Wang, General Director of Asian Outreach and a native of Shanghai, is studying in our School of World Mission this year. He has made numerous trips to China compiling records of multiplied signs and wonders that have resulted in this great harvest of souls. The sick have been healed, the lepers have been cleansed, the dead have been raised, and demons have been cast out just as Jesus instructed in Mt. 10:8. And even greater things than in the New Testament itself have been happening in China, as Jesus promised (John 14:12).

"I will build My Church," said Jesus. We rejoice that in 1982 He is still doing it the same way: by the power of His Holy Spirit channeled through our lives, turning the keys in the kingdom of heaven's gates for peoples all over the world.



A careful man I ought to be
A little fellow follows me
I do not dare to go astray
For fear he'll go the selfsame way.

Not once can I escape his eyes
Whate'er he sees me do he tries
Like me he says he's going to be
That little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine
Believes in every word of mine
The base in me he must not see
That little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go
Through summer sun and winter snow
I'm building for the years to be
That little chap who follows me.

— Author Unknown

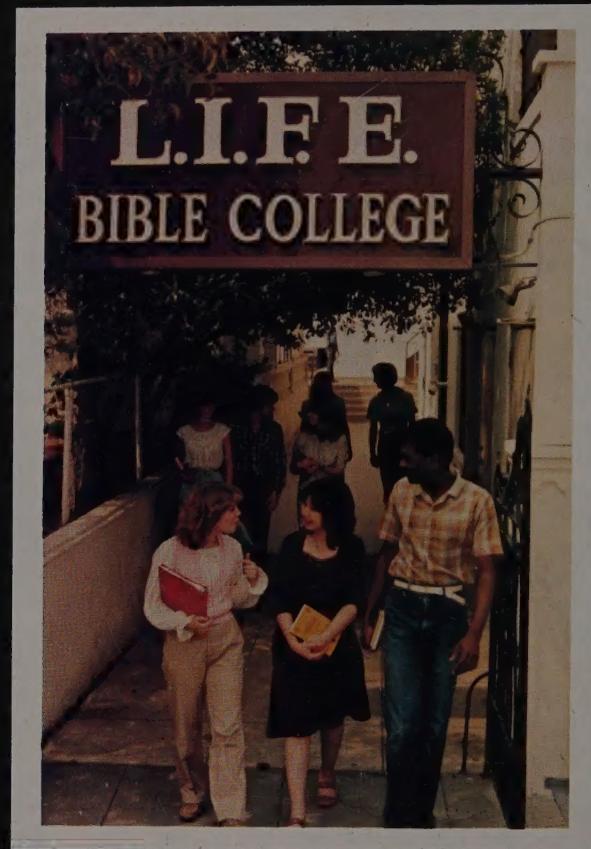
"Dreams for a Generation"

Joseph, son of Jacob's old age, had a dream—an incredible, almost unbelievable dream that he would one day rule over his elders and be an instrument of life-sustaining provision for his people.

Visions and dreams of God's people--especially young people--sow seeds of faith, courage and determination.

And today, in the midst of a drug-ridden, desperate and forlorn generation, God is stirring young hearts to believe that He can do exceedingly above and beyond their most ardent desires for righteous enterprise.

Joel foretold that high school and college youths would prophesy and have visions--not visions of selfishness, nor dreams of fleshly self-indulgence, but understandings that God will move mightily to accomplish His will on earth as in heaven.



What dreams move you?

Does your heart speak what could be if you all to follow the Carpenter from Nazareth?

Jesus' love allows us to believe all things, hold all things. What does it bid you believe of plans and purposes in His heart for you?

We're looking for hearts full of faith and desire to serve the Master. We're looking for young hearts unafraid to dream dreams. Into such hearts we'll pour the truth of His word.

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